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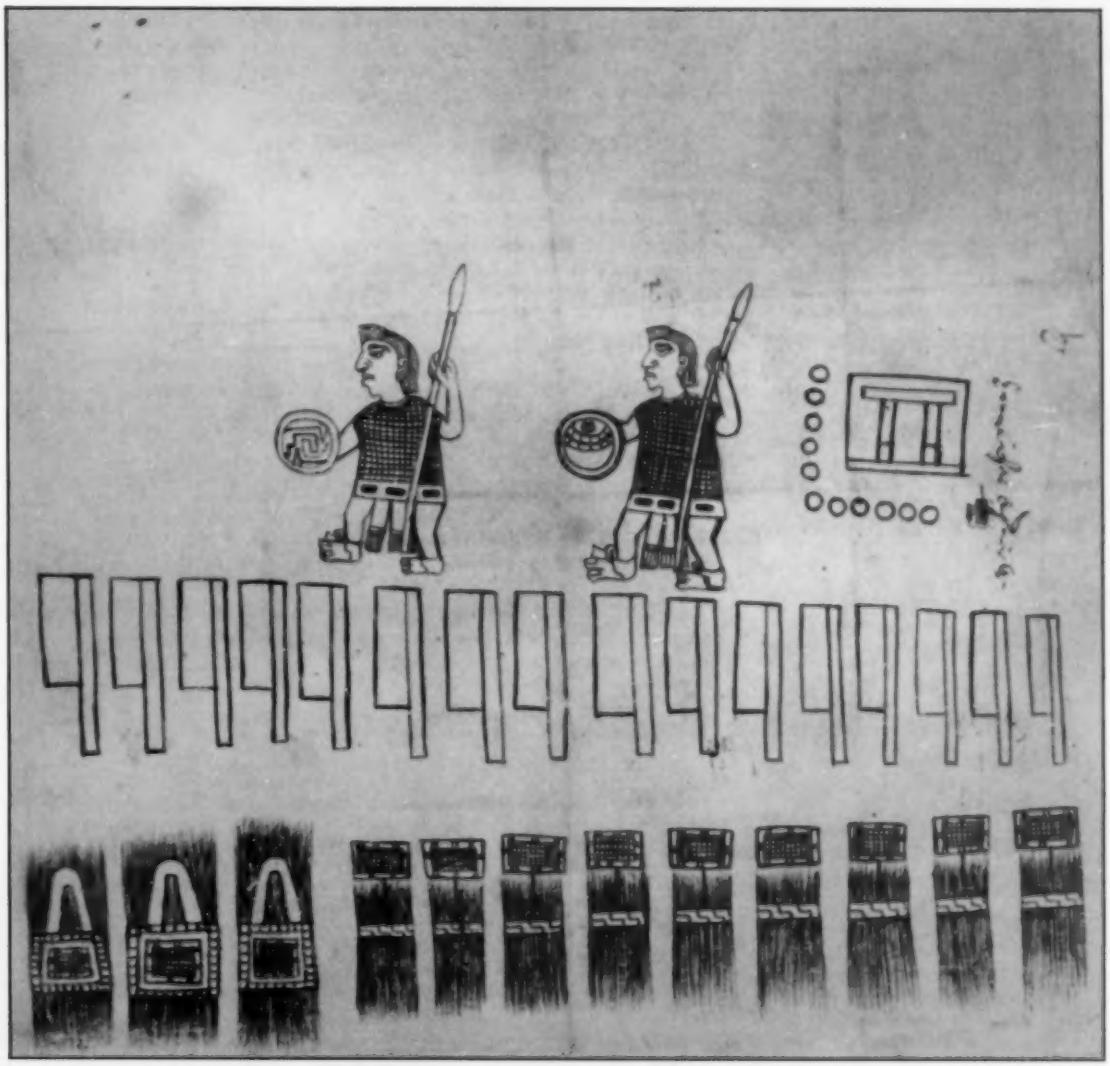

LC's Quincentenary Program

Library of Congress
INFORMATION BULLETIN

JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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On the Cover: A page from the Huejotzingo Codex (Mexico, 1531), one of eight illuminated manuscript sheets on *amatl* paper.

Cover Story: The Library's five-year Quincentenary Program reaches a milestone with the August opening of the exhibition "1492: An Ongoing Voyage." An overview of the program, interviews with guest curators and suggested reading. 327

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Weinberger Papers at LC Figure in Controversy

On its face, the Library's Caspar Weinberger collection is, in David Wigdor's words, "a very conventional acquisition, the kind we've been acquiring for many, many, many years" since the Manuscript Division's creation nearly 100 years ago.

But the papers of former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger took on unusual significance when a relative handful (1,700) of the 370,000 items in the collection apparently formed the basis for a portion of a June 16 criminal indictment charging Mr. Weinberger with perjury, obstruction and making false statements to Congress in what has come to be called the Iran-Contra affair.

To the best of the recollection of Manuscript Division Assistant Chief Wigdor, this marked the first time that any of the 62 million documents contained in more than 10,000 separate manuscript collections held by the Library had been put to such a use.

The Weinberger affair also rekindled debate among librarians as well as Congress over who should be considered to own, and who should be allowed to have access to, documents created on government time at government expense by government officials.

And the Weinberger affair left some Library officials worried that the turn of events might cause other public officials to shy away from keeping a candid documentary record of their tenure or perhaps choose to deposit their papers elsewhere.

In 1981 the Library received its first installment of papers from Mr. Weinberger, consisting of documents from his earlier years of public service and private life in California, Mr. Wigdor said. It received more during his six-year tenure at the Pentagon, and another batch after he left office in 1988.

The Weinberger affair rekindled debate among librarians as well as Congress over who should be considered to own, and who should be allowed to have access to, documents created on government time at government expense by government officials.

It was in the latter batch, Mr. Wigdor said, that Iran-Contra prosecutors in the Office of Independent Counsel ultimately found the pile of 5-by-7-inch notepads that would provide them with part of the evidence they felt they needed to convince a grand jury to indict Mr. Weinberger. The Library first turned over copies of some of those papers in March 1992, with Mr. Weinberger's permission.

Prosecutors contend that some of the entries show that Mr. Weinberger allegedly concealed the existence of the diaries which they say show, among other things, that Mr. Weinberger lied repeatedly when he swore he knew nothing of a clandestine shipment of missiles from Israel to Iran in 1985.

Mr. Weinberger vigorously denies the charges. Supporters have noted the fact that Mr. Weinberger made it no secret that he deposited his papers at the Library, and subsequently gave permission for prosecutors to search them—actions inconsistent with any notion of subterfuge. They also say that it was no more than an inadvertent oversight when Mr. Weinberger failed to tell prosecutors about the notes.

Under the terms of an agreement negotiated between Mr. Weinberger and the Library, the papers are considered to be on deposit at LC with ownership remaining indefinitely with Mr. Weinberger. As long as they remain in that status, the Library is free to catalog and prepare the documents; access to them, however, may be gained by anyone else only with the permission of Mr. Weinberger.

Mr. Wigdor and Library of Congress General Counsel John Kominski said such a deposit agreement is common. "Many living people are reluctant to throw [their papers] open to all comers. They want to know who uses them and for what purposes," Mr. Wigdor said.

The Library hopes that Mr. Weinberger, or his heirs, ultimately will donate the papers to the institution for unrestricted use by scholars and other researchers. While librarians prefer the papers to be given with as few restrictions as possible, the Library does permit donors to limit access for up to 25 years.

Elliott Richardson, attorney general in the Nixon administration, donated his papers to the Library in 1977 but retains control over access to any unclassified documents for 25 years. After his death, the executor of his estate will assume that control for another 10 years.

Alexander Haig, secretary of state in the Reagan administration, donated his papers in 1979 with the same 25-year restriction plus a rule that a special committee will determine access for five years after he dies. Former Nixon administration Secretary of State Henry Kissinger attached a 25-year restriction when he donated his papers in 1976, with the added rule that transcripts of his telephone conversations can only be made available if the other living party to the conversation agrees.

Controversy over access to the papers of public officials is hardly new, and some of the Kissinger papers figured at the heart of one of the most vociferous battles.

In 1782 George Washington refused to let a would-be American Revolution historian look at his

National Film Preservation Act Extended

Library to Coordinate Preservation Effort

President Bush signed P.L. 102–307 on June 26 to reauthorize the National Film Preservation Act of 1988 (P.L. 100–446); the act had expired Sept. 27, 1991.

The new National Film Preservation Act of 1992 extends the legislation for four more years and authorizes $250,000 per year for implementation.

The 1992 act contains significant new provisions that call for the Library to coordinate a national effort to preserve the American film heritage.

The Librarian of Congress will continue each year to name up to 25 "culturally, historically or aesthetically significant" films to a National Film Registry, but colorized or materially altered versions of these films no longer are required to be labeled as such. However, the Library will continue to receive archival prints of each film selected for special collection in the Library.

The renewed act directs Librarian of Congress James H. Billington to conduct a one-year study of the current status of nationwide film preservation activities, in conjunction with the nation's other film archives. LC currently operates the nation's largest film preservation laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio.

In consultation with a restructured National Film Preservation Board, the Librarian of Congress will coordinate national film preservation efforts, assuring that public and private efforts are complementary and generating public awareness and support for film preservation. It has been estimated that more than half of the films made before 1950 and approximately 80 percent of the films from the silent era have been lost forever due to deterioration and neglect.

NATIONAL FILM REGISTRY
of the Library of Congress

Five new positions have been added to the National Film Preservation Board: a cinematographer, a representative of theater owners, a film archivist and two at-large members, bringing the total number of members to 18. Nominations are being solicited for all National Film Board members.

Films selected for the National Film Registry will continue to be chosen on the same basis as before, but the requirement has been dropped that a film be "feature length" and have had a theatrical release.

Weinberger *(Cont. from p. 323)* military records. In denying the request, Washington wrote that when Congress "shall open their registers and say it is proper for the servants of the public to do so, it will give me much pleasure to afford all the aid to your labors . . . which my papers can give. 'Til one of those periods arrive I do not think myself justified in suffering an inspection of and any extracts to be taken from my records."

It was not until 1897, with the establishment of the Library's Manuscript Division, that the government began to collect and keep track of the records of top government officials.

The issue of control over the papers of public officials has been the subject of several significant court cases; the most celebrated case concerned the Kissinger telephone transcripts.

In that 1977 case, Kissinger refused a request from national archivist James Rhoads to examine the documents to assess their historical merit. Kissinger argued that all federal statutes regarding access to public documents did not apply because the transcripts no longer were housed at the State Department, because White House documents were not considered to be agency records and because the notes were personal working papers.

Ultimately, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed with Kissinger.

There are four bills pending in Congress that would address the definition of official documents.

Under current arrangements, Mr. Wigdor said, former officials have legal authority to control access to their documents, on the basis of a 1982 executive order signed by President Ronald Reagan.

He also noted that many of the Weinberger papers held by the Library are simply extra copies of public documents still housed at the Pentagon. Mr. Wigdor added that Mr. Weinberger already has granted access to several researchers, although they have yet to use the collection. And Mr. Wigdor said that the privacy of other individuals could be infringed upon by the unfettered release of certain Weinberger papers.

Mr. Wigdor and other government archivists feel that limitations on access for a generation or so ultimately better serve the needs of scholars, as well as the American public, for a fuller and richer historical record. With premature public access, government officials might be leery of committing candid thoughts and accounts to paper for fear of

embarassment or controversy if they became widely known, they say.

"They will be writing a press release rather than a more spontaneous account," Mr. Wigdor said. Or, he added, the officials "will not save what [they] prepare."

Mr. Wigdor also wonders how much interest there would be anyway in the papers of a recent public figure, given that it often takes a generation or so for a particular period to "ripen" historically.

As evidence, he notes that despite what might be assumed to be strong contemporary interest in the papers of Elliott Richardson, who gained fame for resigning rather than firing the Watergate special prosecutor, only three or four researchers have sought access since the papers came to the Library in 1976. (Mr. Richardson granted permission in each case, Mr. Wigdor said.)

"Many living people are reluctant to throw [their papers] open to all comers. They want to know who uses them and for what purposes."

Given the often-intense competition among university libraries, the U.S. Archives and other repositories for the papers of prominent people, Mr. Wigdor and others at the Library also worry that current and future officials may be leery of placing their papers at the Library for fear that they may meet the same fate as Mr. Weinberger.

John Kominski, the Library's general counsel, suggests that the Weinberger situation may have a chilling effect, but no more than a momentary one, on uninhibited note-taking and -keeping by currently serving officials. "I'm sure it's going to cause some people to pause," he said.

But he added that the impulse to be circumspect is likely to be overcome in the long run by a concern for preserving history.

—Lisa Hoffman

LC in the News

☐ The Librarian's recent appointment of a woman to the Poet Laureate post put LC in the news. The June 15 *Washington Post* reported that "Mona Van Duyn, long lauded for her celebration of married love and daily life, was named the new poet laureate."

As for being the first woman named: "I search my feelings, and I swear I can't find any significance. I'm so used to there being so few women in anthologies and places of power in the poetry world that I didn't find it odd that the Library of Congress should wait seven years to get a woman."

According to the *Post*, Ms. Van Duyn's appointment has been generally applauded by poetry critics. "She has had a distinguished career and has earned the respect of her fellow poets," said David Lehmann, critic and series editor of the annual volume *Best American Poetry*.

The *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* reported June 15 that Ms. Van Duyn is the second poet from University City, Mo., to be named poet laureate. The late Howard Nemerov served in the post during 1988–89.

Ms. Van Duyn told the *Post-Dispatch* that she will advise the Library on literary matters—including its literature collections and its archive of audio and video tapes. "I can't think how a poet laureate can serve the nation any more than as a consultant who brings new talent and great talent to that platform and honors it."

In the June 15 *New York Times* Dr. Billington said, "I look forward to welcoming Ms. Van Duyn to the library, and I am particularly pleased to have a distinguished poet of such wide range joining us to promote public awareness of poetry and literature."

☐ The "Revelations of the Russian Archives" exhibit of formerly secret Communist Party records received widespread media coverage. The June 16 *Washington Post* reported that the documents represent a small but diverse sampling of the vast archives of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, which were taken over by democratic reformers loyal to Russian President Boris Yeltsin following the coup attempt. There were few startling revelations among the documents in the exhibit, according to American scholars who helped select them, but they did serve to illuminate an era of Soviet history—filled with repression, hatred and brutality—that had been largely void of documentation.

"We've known about these events for some time," said Robert Tucker, a professor emeritus at Princeton University. But the documents, he said, "provide some fresh light in the form of undeniable evidence."

Rudolpf Pikhoia, archivist of the Russian Federation, told the *Post* that "some of the documents had been accessible to no more than a handful of top Communist Party officials."

The June 16 *New York Times* reported that "Russia has fallen heir to a vast trove of secrets from a fallen dictatorship, a legacy as intriguing and instructive as it is deeply troubling." In an interview with the *Times*, the Librarian said, "This exhibit was meant to amplify aspects of Soviet history" but he acknowledged that specialists "were unlikely to find anything startling."

In the June 24 *Chronicle of Higher Education* it was noted that, with the Russian archives, the Library offered for the first time computer access to an exhibit. "This is going to revolutionize the way libraries and museums present exhibits," said Robert A. Dierker, senior adviser for multimedia activities at the Library. "No other library has ever offered direct electronic access to such an exhibit," observers told the *Chronicle*.

The exhibit closed at the Library July 16.

—Lucy D. Suddreth

Overseas Operation to Celebrate 30 Years

During the first week of September LC staffers both home and abroad will commemorate the 1962 opening of the India office.

Dr. Billington will start the New Delhi ceremonies with an address to government officials, librarians, the U.S. ambassador and other guests.

"We are planning a big celebration," said Lygia Ballantyne, field director for the India office. The festivities will coincide with the annual meeting of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) in New Delhi.

About the same time there will be a ceremony at the Library in Washington. "The Overseas Operations Division will invite staffers who have a close connection with the overseas office," said Ms. Ballantyne.

The Library of Congress established overseas offices to acquire hard-to-get foreign publications for the Library and participating institutions, chiefly academic research libraries. Using Public Law 480-generated local currency (in India, rupees generated through the sale of donated U.S. agricultural commodities), the Library opened offices in New Delhi, Karachi and Cairo. Those were followed in 1966 by the Nairobi and Rio de Janeiro offices. The overseas offices are headed by American field directors and staffed by local residents.

The India office was first known as the American Libraries Book Procurement Center, responsible for acquiring Indian publications only. Today, that office acquires monographs, serials, recordings and videos in over 25 major Indian languages. The 30 public, academic and national libraries that participate in the overseas program are able to select monographs based on specific language, subject and geographic areas of interest. All of the acquisitions are coded and tracked through a computerized Integrated Order

Lygia Ballantyne

Distribution and Accounting system (IODA). In 1991 the office shipped about 250,000 items to U.S. libraries.

The New Delhi office has played a major role in the preservation of South Asian and other area publications in microform. Of the Library's six overseas offices, India has the largest microfilm operation. The staff films gazettes, newspapers and serials acquired by the Cairo, Jakarta and Karachi offices.

Most recently, the office launched a large-scale preservation project, at various libraries in India, to film 60,000 monographs published from 1900 to 1950. "This is especially important because of the state of deterioration of the books. We are also creating a data base that will be available to institutions in India as well as the United States." In 1991, 358 newspapers, gazettes and serials were microfilmed. Over 19,000 fiche were produced primarily for monographs and annual serials. The office plans to begin processing its own microfilm this year, instead of shipping film to Washington.

Lygia Ballantyne has been field director of the India office for two years. "It seems as if I have been with the Library all of my life," she said. She began her career as a local employee with the Library's Rio office in 1967. In 1985 she was sent to Washington as assistant chief in Overseas Operations for two years and was subsequently posted to head the India office.

The Delhi office employs 65 local residents who perform acquisitions, cataloging and preservation duties. Last year, more than 12,000 titles were cataloged through the overseas data entry system. "Having a Delhi office also makes it easy for us to react to what is happening in the country and reflect important issues and trends," Ms. Ballantyne added.

For example, the office is able to acquire political literature during election periods. Staffers have collected, indexed and filmed all of the published literature of the Bharatiya Janata Party (India's largest opposition party) and will make this available to scholars.

The Delhi office has grown during the past 30 years into a highly efficient and technologically advanced program, according to Fred Protopappas, program officer, Overseas Operations Division.

Each of the office field directors must return to the Library periodically for consultation. "It is very important to come back to the Library for home leave," Ms. Ballantyne said. "The Library is a very dynamic environment with things constantly changing—you have the feeling you may be missing something." This time also gives the field director an opportunity to speak with participating institutions, in-house catalogers, photoduplication and financial services. Added Mr. Protopappas: "No matter how good the communications are via telephone or fax, we are still 'out there,' so to speak. However, we do feel a part of the Library."

—Lucy D. Suddreth

Making discoveries: The team for "1492: An Ongoing Voyage" meets to chart its progress. Chris White, exhibit designer (standing, left), presents his ideas to (clockwise from left) John Hébert, Quincentenary Program coordinator; Barbara Loste, program assistant coordinator; Robert Roy, program office manager; Anthony Mullan, research specialist; Ida Altman, guest curator; Deborah Durbeck, Interpretive Programs production manager; Paul Wimmer, video producer from Wimmer Associates; Irene Burnham, Interpretive Programs officer; and Sandra Day, program writer-editor.

'An Ongoing Voyage' Reaches Its Chief Goal:

Quincentenary Program Exhibit to Open in August

by John Hébert and Barbara Loste

In spring 1989 the Library's Quincentenary Program office of two people began plans for a comprehensive series of projects that would serve as the Library's commemoration of the events and consequences of Columbus' 1492 voyage to the Americas.

It was believed that the most effective projects would be those planned cooperatively within the Library of Congress and with other interested parties. The funds came from a special appropriation of Congress, spread in equal payments over five years.

During summer 1989, a series of projects were proposed as the Library's Quincentenary Program. The Jan. 29, 1990, issue of the LC *Information Bulletin* listed 19 projects for "An Ongoing Voyage: 1492–1992." Exhibitions, research projects, research guides, documentary projects, preparations of facsimiles of Library treasures, educational outreach, miniconferences, lectures and film series were the primary ingredients. Full implementation depended on sufficient outside funding.

The central focus of the program was to be the development of a major exhibition, based primarily on the rich collections of the Library, which would address a variety of themes suggested by the quincentenary. "1492: An Ongoing Voyage," discussed in a four part series in March, April, May and June 1992 issues of the *Information Bulletin*, opens Aug. 13 in the Library's Madison Gallery. The exhibition catalog was prepared by Library specialists and outside scholars. Quincentenary projects and events were planned to complement each other to effectively use modest resources.

One of the first projects began even before the program was officially established. Through the prompting of archival authorities and scholars from Spain and the United States, who desired a written survey of the holdings of Spanish archival documents maintained in microform in U.S. research repositories, the Quincentenary Program's Archival Survey Project

(Cont. on p. 330)

The Consequences of Contact and Conquest

by John J. Wayne

A blending of the European and the Native American cultures did not occur immediately after contact, but rather continued throughout the Colonial period, explained Ida Altman, one of two guest curator-specialists selected to provide scholarly assistance to the Library's Quincentenary Project.

In central Mexico, for example, full religious conversion to Catholicism still had not taken place by 1540–50. "The indigenous cultures remained very vigorous," emphasized Dr. Altman, an associate professor of history at the University of New Orleans. Dr. Altman devoted most of a year's sabbatical to advising the specialists here at the Library. She brings to the project expertise in both Spanish and Latin American history.

For those wanting to read more on this subject, Dr. Altman recommended *The Slippery Earth* by Louise M. Burkhart (Tucson, University of Arizona Press, 1989) as a good study of European and indigenous adaptation.

To illustrate the process of contact and conquest—and their consequences—for the Quincentenary Project, Dr. Altman suggested a middle-ground approach as "the one in which we have the greatest possibility of teaching people."

Said Dr. Altman: "There are at least three models on which we can draw: the *benevolent*, where Europe is seen as bringing to America the benefits of civilization: religion, technology, law. Indeed, there was even a kind of intellectual flowering for the Europeans in learning the indigenous languages and actually helping to preserve aspects of their cultures.

Ida Altman: "Much that was really fundamental in [Native American] culture survived."

"Then there is the other extreme," she continued, "the more recent trend to view the European incursion as *catastrophic*, a disaster in which native societies and cultures were disrupted and exploited in a wave of invasion and conquest.

"Obviously, there was a lot of destruction, and exploitation was the primary motivation for conquest," she continued. But "neither is this model entirely accurate. It implies that native cultures were so brittle and fragile that they could not withstand the intrusion of Europe. It fails to explain the resilience and survival of Native American peoples, societies and cultures throughout the period of European colonization, and is therefore imperfect.

"In between those two models is probably the most useful model, that may be characterized as *accommodation*, where both the Europeans and the Native Americans can be viewed as negotiating terms by which they could both live together. Although this was usually disadvantageous to the Native American peoples, the responses and accommodations were extremely varied.

"Although this model alone would not explain everything that happened, I think it gives us the opportunity to better appreciate what happened. There was a tremendous amount of retention and resilience at the same time this adaptation occurred. In the long run, the Native Americans historically managed to retain their traditions of diet, agriculture, belief systems and languages, along with their own concepts of the relationship between individual and family, kin-network and community. Those are the things that really define an individual and a culture. In other words, much that was really fundamental survived.

"This is what we wish to do in the exhibit," she added. "We are trying to demonstrate the degree of adjustment that took place on both sides. What began as an exploitation, a sort of adventure or gold rush for the Europeans, instead became a process of adaptation for them. They didn't just encounter a *tabula rasa*."

How was pre-Columbian native mind-set able to adapt at all to the thinking, traditions and strictures of Christian dogma? Dr. Altman's reply was a surprise: "The values of peoples like the Nahuas of Central Mexico were flexible, allowing them to accept such difficult concepts as the Christian trinity. This kind of thing was already familiar to them.

"When the Spanish walked into Tenochtitlan [the Aztec capital in Mexico], they had never dreamed—even those who had traveled—that there could be such a fabulous city of a quarter of a million people, in perfect order, with dazzling multicolored stone monuments and a market place with 20,000 people."

The Many Faces of Christopher Columbus

by John J. Wayne

John Fleming's approach to the Quincentenary Program is, as he explained it, "through the character of Christopher Columbus himself, an absolutely fascinating historical figure, who—ironically or paradoxically—benefits from the paucity of actual historical documents concerning him."

The professor of English and comparative literature and master of Wilson College at Princeton University is another of the guest curator-specialists selected to advise the Quincentenary Program at the Library. "There have been at least as many Christopher Columbuses as there have been books written about him," Dr. Fleming added. "We seldom meet the same man twice. In the 19th century, Columbus was on the one hand a culture-hero for a large number of very Anglo-Saxon, very Protestant, Americans; on the other hand, he became the icon of the Italo-American immigrant and the spiritual guide of the Knights of Columbus. The late 20th century trend is to debunk Columbus, but the attacks have all the variety of the previous praise: he was incompetent, or he was gold-grubber, or the harbinger of genocide or even of the ecological crises.

"However he is viewed—and it is clear that there is still, surprisingly, a great deal more to be learned about him or at least about his context—it seems to me, Columbus remains a mysterious, intriguing figure.

"Under these circumstances," he continued, "the particularly rich collections at the Library of Congress are by far the best in the United States for original Columbus material. What we will try to bring out in the exhibition is the degree to which Columbus, like all people, including us, was a product of his time and cultural milieu. In a way, what I find most interesting is the fact that the Europeans didn't think they were encountering anything new [in the Americas], but kept trying to force radically *new* experiences into comfortable categories of their own experience and authoritarian belief.

John Fleming: "There have been at least as many Christopher Columbuses as there have been books about him."

"Columbus himself was to deny that he had ever found a new continent; he was absolutely convinced that he had reached Asia! He thought he was in India. This was one mistake among many: The name 'America' was based on the misapprehension that Amerigo Vespucci was first to find the New World!"

But hadn't Columbus actually set out to reach the so-called Spice Islands? So that he was able to believe that what he had found were only "preliminary" Asiatic islands?

"Columbus was a remarkably able sailor when judged on his technical nautical skills," said Dr. Fleming. "He gives the appearance of making acute observations and of keeping careful records. All this might seem to imply a 'modern' empirical sensibility, but in fact he was the captive of his own bookish preconceptions.

"Yet, what crackpot books inspired him! [Works by] Marco Polo and Ptolemy, Mandeville's *Travels*. He was living in a 'prescientific' world. Our automatic response now is to test everything empirically; his was to find a book that said 'This is true.'

"We say that seeing is believing, but it often works the other way around," Dr. Fleming replied. "We 'see' what our culture has already taught us to believe. This was true for Columbus and others of his time, but it can also be true of us. It is most interesting to compare the ways in which the 400th anniversary in 1892–93 was marked with what is happening now. In the 19th century the name of Columbus was linked with every aspect of American optimism: economic, cultural, technological, spiritual. Now his name is linked with all our anxieties: race relations, the frayed social fabric, economic decline, the ecological crises."

Then the focus for 1490s Spain would have been on conquest?

"This was the actual flowering of the Renaissance in Italy, but Spain is otherwise totally motivated toward the West. Europe was breaking loose from its Middle Ages. Columbus, without intending it, completely changed foreign

(Cont. on p. 331)

Barbara Loste and John Hébert listen while Bob Abel, president of Synapse Technologies in Los Angeles, demonstrates the interactive video "Columbus: Encounter, Discovery and Beyond"; the video is available for use in LC's National Demonstration Laboratory.

Exhibit *(Cont. from p. 327)*
began in 1987, under the direction of Dr. Guadalupe Jiménez. The results of that major survey will be published in the research guide (now in press) *The Hispanic World 1492–1898*. It contains abundant information on research resources, a lengthy introductory essay in both Spanish and English, and a 3,600-entry bibliography.

The early work of the survey was stimulated by the convening of the Quincentenary Archival Survey Conference at the Library in September 1987, made possible through a National Endowment for the Humanities grant, cosponsored by the Library of Congress and the American Historical Association. The presentations and discussions from that conference appeared in *The Hispanic Experience in North America: Sources for Study in the United States* (Ohio State University Press, 1992).

LC has reached a varied audience with the Quincentenary Program. In summer 1990 the program, in cooperation with National History Day, and with a National Endowment for the Humanities grant, convened a three-week educators institute at the Library. Under the direction of Lynda Smith, a total of 50 secondary school teachers and librarians from 38 states and the District of Columbia participated in daily lectures, research and exchange that featured contributions from Library specialists and other experts from the United States and abroad. As an NEH official remarked, "a veritable who's who" of scholars of the quincentenary period were at the Library that summer; several of those individuals were involved in other Quincentenary Program efforts. Among them were Drs. Ida Altman and John Fleming (guest curators to "1492: An Ongoing Voyage"), Dr. James Lockhart (contributor to the exhibition catalog), Dr. Colin Palmer (adviser on the quincentenary exhibition), Dr. Louis De Vorsey (author of *Keys to the Encounter* (Library of Congress, 1992) and Lee Miller (exhibition consultant and contributor to the Library's Native American guide). Preparation of exact facsimiles of the Library's Huejotzingo Codex (1531, Mexico), the 1562 Diego Gutíerrez map of America and the 1540 Oztoticpac lands map (Mexico) continues.

Logo for "An Ongoing Voyage"; the cross is similar to that used on the sails of European explorers during the age of Columbus.

The June 1992 conference "An Ongoing Voyage: Music," jointly sponsored by the Music Division and the Quincentenary Program, brought eminent Iberian, U.S. and Latin American musicologists to LC.

The Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division has planned a series on Columbus and on American Indian peoples in the movies. The American Folklife Center's exhibition and documentary project "Italian Americans in the West" opens on the West Coast in October. The hour-length video feature "Christopher Columbus: The Ongoing Voyage" was prepared by LC's Global Library Project and has been featured on cable television since the fall of 1991. The Quincentenary Program and the Hispanic Division and Hispanic Cultural Society have cosponsored a number of lectures on quincentenary themes.

The projects continue. The ideas for them have come from various individuals and divisions in the Library. With the encouragement of Congress, as well as from throughout the scholarly community, it is hoped the projects can be brought to fruition.

When the Quincentenary Program began, a broad effort based on a lot of hard work, cooperation—and good luck—was envisioned. The program's staffers have experienced all of these as "An Ongoing Voyage" continues.

John Hébert and Barbara Loste are coordinator and assistant coordinator of the Library's Quincentenary Program.

Beginning at the End of the Story

by Jody Nielsen

Students are typically taught that when the white man came to America, the Indians fled. But "the history learned in school actually begins at the end of the story," said Lee Miller, a former researcher at the Library for the Quincentenary Program. New interpretations of that history are being rewritten today. While at LC, Ms. Miller studied the early encounters among Europeans and American Indians.

"The real tragedy is the loss of the Indian culture," Ms. Miller said. "It is very important for us to look at those early years of contact, 500 years ago, and see how the two cultures held up."

Contrary to what may be the familiar story, there were places on the East Coast where the Indians were making the rules and the white man had to conform and pay tribute. "The whole Chesapeake region, and the entire East Coast, for that matter, was that way when the white man first came, and lasted, in favor of the Indians, from two to four decades in some instances," Ms. Miller said.

Yet the balance of power inevitably shifted. From the beginning, encounters between Columbus and the Indians were "gross cultural misunderstandings on both sides," as Ms. Miller called them.

Both the Spanish and the Indian peoples interpreted each other's actions according to their own values.

Lee Miller: "People would kill themselves rather than live under a repressive system."

Thus, "typical greeting rituals of the Indians were understood by the Spanish to be worshipful."

At the end of Columbus' first voyage the Spanish recognized that they could enslave the Indians. "By the second voyage the misunderstandings were compounded, not only culturally, but they [believed they] had the right to use these people for their own gain," Ms. Miller said.

History has commonly portrayed the Indian peoples as compliant and easily surrendering, when in fact they revolted in many locations. This resistance led to several mass slaughters of the original inhabitants, thereby creating starvation in the islands of Puerto Rico and Hispaniola. "There were mass suicides, and people would kill themselves and their children rather than live under a repressive system," Ms. Miller said. "A combination of forced servitude, disease and indiscriminate slaughter soon led to the extermination of the indigenous population in Hispaniola."

Ms. Miller, who is part Kaw and Cherokee, worked on contract with the Quincentenary Program as an ethnohistorian from December 1989 until June 1991. While at LC she made a survey of all the collections to identify all materials related to Indian peoples at the time of contact, with emphasis on the United States and Canada. She also provided LC with a North American Indian Resource Packet, which was used during the 1990 Educators Institute held at the Library.

Ms. Miller received her B.A. and M.A. from Johns Hopkins University. She has completed field research in ethnohistorical studies and has received several research, writing and proposal grants, including for the Native American Preservation Society and the American Philosophical Society. She also was a consultant to the British Broadcasting Corp. for an environmental documentary series "Land of the Eagle" on the American Indian. Ms. Miller is a film production writer in Los Angeles, where she is currently working on a documentary on American Indian life from pre-Columbian times through the 19th-century.

Fleming *(Cont. from p. 329)*

policy in Spain," Dr. Fleming responded. "Spain was so preoccupied with America in the 16th century that she was slow to react to the powerful, impending threat of Turkish Ottoman expansion in Eastern and Central Europe.

"In this connection, the Jews who were expelled from Spain in 1492 were welcomed into the Ottoman Empire by the Turkish sultan. There is a notable theory by Professor Americo Castro that for one moment in the mid- to late 15th century, the Iberian countries had the option of remaining a society rich in diversity or of adopting a narrow, crusading mentality. Obviously, it was tragic that the latter option was adopted.

(Cont. on p. 341)

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LC *Information Bulletin* Index Now Available for 1991

The Library of Congress Professional Association has published the 1991 *Index to the Library of Congress Information Bulletin*. This useful key to *Information Bulletin* articles provides access by name and subject to the principle activities of the Library of Congress as well as a range of national and international developments and issues of interest to libraries, information centers and publishers.

Included are areas such as copyright, preservation, automation, cataloging and reports of national and international conferences. The Index also provides a handy means of identifying LC projects and products, symposia and exhibitions. The 1991 Index has a new collective heading, "Conferences and Meetings," which is used to record all reports from professional gatherings. Do you want to know what effect the Persian Gulf War had on the Library? Are you wondering when the Main Reading Room reopened? The 1991 *Index to the LCIB* offers ready access to articles that provide answers to these and other questions.

The 1991 *Index to the LCIB* is $10 per copy.

Special offers on back issues:
☐ 1990 and 1991 Indexes–$15
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Postage: All orders are sent book rate. Overseas orders: add $4. U.S. and Canada first-class postage: add $2. All orders must be **prepaid.** Payment should be made to Library of Congress Professional Association. Foreign orders should be in U.S. currency and payable through a U.S. bank.

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Compiled by Everette E. Larson, Head, Reference Section, Hispanic Division

'Putting Out Fires':
MacLeish Takes Care of the Library's Troubles

The following is reprinted from the book Archibald MacLeish: An American Life *by Scott Donaldson, A Peter Davison Book, published by Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. Copyright 1992 by Scott Donaldson. Reprinted by permission. This is the fifth installment (See* LC Information Bulletin, *May 18, June 1, June 15 and June 29 for parts 1, 2, 3 and 4.)*

Putnam's management style, at least in the latter years of his long service as librarian of Congress, was to concentrate on those areas of most interest to him—acquisitions, for example, and interlibrary cooperation—and to assume other operations would take care of themselves. Often they did not. MacLeish got a whiff of one such neglected field on a tour of the LC's subterranean regions. Somewhat reluctantly, the building superintendent guided him three stories below ground level, where they came upon a terrible stench. "It's those god-damned motion picture films," the superintendent explained. With American films, as with books, two copies were submitted to the LC to secure copyright. Putnam had taken little interest in these and consigned them to a cellar closet. When the superintendent opened the door, the odor was overpowering. On the floor lay something that looked like a mass of black jelly. Much of the film was ruined, but MacLeish sent everything that hadn't turned into crust to the Museum of Modern Art, which salvaged some priceless historical footage, including film of McKinley speaking from a rear railroad platform during the presidential campaign of 1900.

Then there was the problem of disposing of squatters—veteran LC users who had taken possession of study rooms (supposedly reservable only for one week) and were "doing everything in them but light housekeeping." Champion among the squatters was an elderly fellow who called himself a research statistician. For ten years he had occupied a spacious area equipped with two desks and a collection of over five hundred books from the library stacks. Despite orders to the contrary, he flatly refused to leave his bailiwick or to return the books. He even advertised for a secretary to assist him, directing candidates to "apply Library of Congress." Competing with him for the chutzpah award was a retired schoolteacher who had occupied a study room for nine years. She was a writer, she said, but no one had been able to find anything she had ever published. When the annex opened, she applied for a brandnew study room, inking out the one-week condition and substituting "For Life" instead. Shortly before MacLeish arrived, her application was approved with this revision.

Rather more serious troubles awaited MacLeish in the Legislative Reference Service (LRS) and the Rare Book Room. The LRS was established in 1915 as a service to the Congress, a place where representatives could call on competent reference librarians "to prepare such indexes, digests, and compilations of law as may be required." Obviously it was especially important that this service operate efficiently and well, since the LC's budget depended on congressional appropriations. Yet in advance of assuming his duties, the new librarian received several communications from disgruntled congressmen complaining that their requests had been ignored or poorly handled. The situation was complicated by the fact that Wilfred C. Gilbert, the director of the LRS, had been a classmate of Archie's at Harvard Law School. Gilbert wrote MacLeish his congratulations on the same day that President Roosevelt made his choice known. As an "admiring member" of the law school class of 1919, he reminded Archie, "I watched and listened with delight as you . . . 'talked back' to the professors." And of course, Gilbert added, he stood ready to contribute to the success of MacLeish's administration in any way he could. Yet as the complaints began to pour in, it became apparent that the LRS needed fresh leadership.

On arrival, MacLeish made it clear that queries from the Congress were to take precedence over other functions. In November he brought Luther Evans on board to steer the LRS, demoting classmate Gilbert to deputy director. He also conducted a survey of LRS operations, inviting senators and representatives to comment on improvements they desired. The survey disclosed, first, that there were not enough researchers to respond adequately to the increasing volume of congressional requests, and second, that those researchers now on the job were badly undercompensated. In addition to calling for more staff, MacLeish attempted to make the LC more accessible by establishing a Browsing Room stocked with the latest books for the use of members of Congress and their families.

Unlike Gilbert, the flamboyant V. Valta Parma, curator of the Rare Book Collection, would neither accept demotion gracefully nor go quietly, though go is precisely what both Putnam and MacLeish wanted him to do. To his credit, Parma had been instrumental in building the LC's rare book division over a period of twelve years, personally retrieving from the library's nooks and

crannies nearly 90 percent of the one hundred thousand volumes shelved and catalogued in the Rare Book Room, and adding to that number by purchasing many others. But Parma also managed to alienate nearly everyone who worked with him, including Alice Lerch, the woman he hired as his chief assistant. Moreover, he followed unethical practices in buying books, and may have been guilty of accepting kickbacks from dealers. On July 1, 1939, Putnam began the process of easing Parma out. Henceforth, Putnam decreed, Parma would spend one-half of his time preparing a bibliography of the LC's juvenile holdings—under a grant from J. K. Lilly, Inc., that Parma himself had negotiated—and the other half on the Rare Book Collection, with his $4,600 salary split down the middle. While he worked on the bibliography, chief assistant Lerch was to take charge of "routine administrative duties." In mid-September, Parma asked to resume his former status, since he had employed an assistant for the bibliographic project. At first inclined to agree, Putnam then changed his mind. Effective September 25, less than a week before the new librarian was to take office, he directed Parma to detach himself completely from the Rare Book Room, thereafter devoting himself to the juvenile bibliography until the Lilly grant ran out. His salary from the LC was to continue only through the period of any annual leave he had accumulated.

A letter from Parma was on MacLeish's desk on October 2, 1939. Putnam had given no reason for removing him from the rare book division, he claimed. He was eager to discuss the matter with MacLeish. The following day, the new librarian received an FBI report, ordered by Putnam, that spelled out Parma's irregular dealings. Among other things, the investigators found that Parma had on a number of occasions purchased rare books for the LC from Mrs. W. M. Walbridge, who it turned out was in fact Mrs. Parma. By way of explanation, Parma later wrote MacLeish that Walbridge was his wife's professional name, which she invariably used in buying and selling books, that under the name of Walbridge she had once *given* the LC "a book of such rarity [unnamed] that its value exceeded the total amount she received for [selling the Rare Book Room] the collection of Children's Books," and that it did not occur to him that there could be "anything compromising" in such transactions. The confusion about names extended to Parma as well as to his wife. Born Albert C. Pratt, he was so known until he married Madama Pallas Parma (a.k.a. Mrs. W. M. Walbridge) and adopted her name as his own.

Although the FBI investigation failed "to disclose any violation of a Federal Criminal Statute," the report was nonetheless forwarded to MacLeish for such action as he deemed appropriate. Armed with this information, he wrote Parma on October 4 that of course he would be glad to meet and talk the matter over. At the same time, he expressed his "strongly held opinion that a new administrator should in general accept the acts of his predecessors as binding upon himself." More than a month elapsed before the two men met, with MacLeish repudiating a suggestion that they meet outside the library, in a social setting. When Parma finally presented himself, resplendent in elevator shoes, flowing tie, and a wide-brimmed hat crushed flat on one side, it was with threats of possible consequences if he were not restored to his former position. Rumors were being spread by Alice Lerch and Martin Roberts that he had stolen books from the Rare Book Collection, he maintained. These were damaging to his reputation, and his friends at the Associated Press were eager to tell his side of the story. In addition, the LC might well lose the $30,000 Lilly grant in his absence.

When these warnings did not avail, Parma widened the scope of his campaign. He contacted Colonel Frederic Delano, who had been Archie's employer on the 1926 League of Nations mission to Persia, and Delano in turn carried the protest to his relatives, the president and Mrs. Roosevelt. Either President Roosevelt must grant him a hearing, Parma told Delano, or a congressional investigation of the library "will surely result." Both Delano and Eleanor Roosevelt wrote MacLeish about the Parma question, and FDR asked him about it at the end of a luncheon meeting. Archie assured them all that Parma knew exactly why he was being let go, whatever he might say to the contrary, and that he had been given every opportunity to present his case. He also offered Parma a lesser position, unaffiliated with rare books, at least for the duration of the Lilly grant. Finally, on December 27, 1939, the still indignant Parma resigned.

As a last gasp, he managed to carry out one of his threats. He persuaded the *Washington Star* to present his case against Putnam and MacLeish. "Little birds on Capitol Hill twitter that while the voice at the Library is the voice of Jacob MacLeish," Frederick William Wile wrote in a January 29, 1940, article, "the hands still running the establishment are the hands of Esau Putnam." Wile characterized Parma as "by common consent America's first rare bookman" and quoted North Dakota Representative Usher L. Burdick as deploring "the treatment meted out to this scholarly, patriotic" public servant. Parma did not seek reinstatement, Wile pointed out, but "his friends in and out of Congress" were considering a congressional investigation. None came to pass.

Next: Reorganization and Outreach

Public's Right to Know Is Focus of House Hearing

Whether allowing the federal government to copyright computer software would limit the public's right to information became the focus of a recent House hearing.

Ralph Oman, the Library's Register of Copyrights, joined other government witnesses May 6 testifying before the House Subcommittee on Intellectual Property and Judicial Administration in support of H.R. 191, the Technology Transfer Improvements Act of 1991.

The bill would permit government agencies, including executive branch agencies such as the Library of Congress, to own and transfer copyright in computer software developed under cooperative research and development agreements with industry, known as CRADAs.

The bill would also permit payment of royalties to federal software creators for the commercial exploitation of their computer programs created under a CRADA. A similar right was accorded federal patent inventors under the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Transfer Act, which was adopted in 1980, and proponents of H.R. 191 cited its success.

Leading off the testimony were the bill's sponsor, Rep. Constance Morella (R-Md.), and the bill's cosponsor, Rep. Ray Thornton (D-Ark.).

The Information Industry Association and a coalition of 21 public interest groups, publishers, library associations and related information industries, oppose the bill, saying it will jeopardize the public's right to information.

Subcommittee Chairman William Hughes (D-N.J.) applauded the goals of the legislation—most notably to increase U.S. competitiveness by transferring technology from the government to private industry—while maintaining a neutral stance as to whether the bill was the best way to achieve the goals. Ranking minority member Carlos Moorhead (R-Calif.) said in his opening remarks that he wanted to see specific evidence that the legislation was needed.

Rep. Constance Morella testifies in favor of a bill she has cosponsored with Rep. Ray Thornton; the bill would permit payment of royalties to federal creators of software under certain conditions. *Photo by Reid Baker*

Since 1909 publications of the U.S. government have been denied copyright protection. As the Register said in his written testimony, the prohibition "was enacted to give the public unlimited access to important information, and to prevent the government from exercising censorship.

"Another basis for restricting copyright in works created by government employees is the so-called double subsidy argument: the public pays for the creation of the work once through taxes and should not have to pay a second time through copyright royalties," he added.

However, the Register pointed out, the time may be ripe for change. "In the case of software, copyright covers works of immense economic value, and in today's highly competitive global economy the government copyright prohibition on software may be in conflict with U.S. international interests."

Furthermore, the Register noted, "The government can already authorize a private contractor, who develops a computer program using government money, to copyright that program in the company's name. The contractor can do so as long as no government employee helps develop the program."

Additionally, as the Register noted in response to questions, foreign governments and state and local governments are entitled to copyright protection.

The Register and other witnesses, including Deborah Wince-Smith, assistant secretary for technology policy at the Commerce Department, and Kent Smith, deputy director of the National Library of Medicine, said the legislation would not block the free flow of information and that it would probably have the opposite effect by encouraging private industry to make commercial use of government software and thus to have broader applications.

Commerce's Wince-Smith asserted the legislation was vital. Federal agencies were involved in "exciting software developments," much of

which will never benefit American industry. "It has to be debugged, simplified or customized, and training materials have to be packaged. Agencies cannot always devote the time and resources to this extra work without short-changing their other scientific responsibility. As agencies repeatedly testify, firms simply will not undertake the risk of developing commercial applications for federally developed software without copyright protection," she said.

However, as Rep. Hughes pointed out in questioning following Wince-Smith's testimony, industry is free to take public domain software and improve or modify it, and protect such debugging, simplifying, customizing, etc., as derivative works. He questioned whether H.R. 191 would not eliminate the derivative work possibilities. (The Copyright Act defines a derivation work as a work "based upon one or more preexisting works, such as a translation, musical arrangement, dramatization . . . or any other form in which a work may be recast, transformed or adapted." The new authorship, if original, is fully protected under the Copyright law.)

One example of the need for the legislation seemed to backfire. Rep. Thornton described how three-dimensional imaging software developed at Lawrence Livermore Laboratories, a government lab operated under contract, was "picked up by the Japanese, turned into a product, and [is] now sold by them on the open market. . . . It was a valuable product, which because of the limitations in our laws, was free to everyone, including the Japanese," said Rep. Thornton.

"What the Japanese company did is an example of what an American company should have done," said Rep. Hughes. He furthermore noted that as a contract lab, Livermore could have protected its work with copyright; however, it seems that Department of Energy regulations, as opposed to U.S. law, prohibited copyrighting.

In response to concerns voiced by the Information Industry Association (IIA) that the bill would restrict public access to government data bases, the bill uses the Copyright Act's definition of computer software and was amended to specifically exclude "data, data bases or data retrieval systems."

While praising the attempt to deal with the problem, Steven Metalitz, general counsel for the IIA, said it was no assurance. The amendment "assumes you can draw a sharp line between data bases and software. Even if that distinction made sense today it won't make sense tomorrow," he said.

"Increasingly, government records of all kinds are maintained only in machine-readable formats, consisting of both computer programs and data bases. Access to the underlying data is impossible without the ability to use the associated search and retrieval software. Similarly, in expert systems, the knowledge base of data is useless without the ability to manipulate it using the artificial intelligence software with which it is closely linked.

"In these and other examples, the ability to assert copyright over the computer program readily translates to the ability to control access to the underlying data," he said.

Questions arose, as they have in past hearings, about the difference between software and books, both of which are considered literary works under the copyright law. Some proponents of the legislation noted the utilitarian aspects of computer software, and thus claimed that it needed to be treated differently from books. Said Rep. Thornton, "Software lies in that gray area between patentable invention and words." Ms. Wince-Smith asked, "Why do we need to operate under laws from 200 years ago . . . [when] there were no computers, no artificial intelligence?"

Countering their argument was Jerry Berman, director of the Electronic Frontier Foundation, who testified, "When the public's right to know may be adversely affected by legislation to achieve worthy goals, we must insist that the proponents meet their burden of proof that it is absolutely necessary to achieve them. We . . . call on you to press the proponents of this measure to make a far more compelling case for its passage."

A companion bill, S. 1581, was introduced in the Senate by Jay Rockefeller (D-W.Va.) and both bills have cleared their respective science committees.

—Ruth Sievers

National Library Service And Its Chief Win Awards

☐ Frank Kurt Cylke, director of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, accepted the George Alexander Memorial Service Award from the Blinded American Veterans Foundation (BAVF) on behalf of the Library of Congress at the seventh annual George "Buck" Gillispie ceremony held at the Cannon House Office Building on June 16.

The award was presented "in appreciation of . . . outstanding service to American veterans." John Fales Jr., president of BAVF said, "At a time when we find many government agencies which routinely disregard federal guidelines for accommodating the blind and disabled, it is a distinct pleasure to find one agency doing everything expected of it and more."

☐ Mr. Clyke was invested as a Laureate of Virginia by Gov. L. Douglas Wilder during a ceremony held in the State Capitol on March 7.

The Virginia Cultural Laureate Society was chartered in 1974 to encourage and stimulate cultural achievement by recognizing individuals whose excellence in their

(Cont. on p. 340)

Cataloging Directorate Hosts Copy Cataloging Seminar

The Cataloging Directorate hosted a Copy Cataloging Seminar on June 15–16 to discuss expediting the use of copy cataloging at the Library of Congress.

Maximizing this use is seen as an essential tool in meeting two goals of the Cataloging Directorate: 1) to eliminate or significantly reduce arrearages and 2) to increase the timeliness of available bibliographic records. Invited guests Liz Bishoff, director, Member Relations, OCLC; Carol Mandel, director of Technical Services & Networked Information Services, Columbia University; Michael Kaplan, head, Catalog Support Services, Harvard College Library, Widener Library; Jerry Lowell, associate university librarian and director for Technical Services, Yale University Library; and Jennifer Younger, assistant director for Technical Services, Ohio State University Libraries, met with representatives from Collections Services to exchange information and establish a set of objectives for the cataloging divisions and a series of action items to meet those objectives.

Liz Bishoff set the frame for the seminar with a discussion on implementing change: A technical processing unit must be able to respond to shrinking economic resources, greater competition for these resources, constantly changing technology and increasingly diversified client needs. It is known from experience, however, that adapting to changing conditions is difficult, in part because the rules made for one set of circumstances inhibit the recognition or perception of a need to adapt to a new set of circumstances.

One way to effect change is to look for agents of change and to utilize people ready to break the rules. Outsiders operating in different circumstances with different rules are one source for change. New staff and line staff are another potential source for reconsideration of current operating conditions. Administrators should encourage staff to wonder, "Is this the best way to do the job?" or "Will this method process more books?" and finally, "If it doesn't, why are we doing it?"

Jennifer Younger (left) makes a point while Sarah Thomas listens during the June 15–16 Copy Cataloging Seminar. *Photo by Reid Baker*

Other means to view old procedures in new ways include inviting colleagues from other libraries or fields to assist in review and sending staff to visit other libraries.

Ms. Bishoff's theoretical discussion of shifting paradigms led into presentations on practical experience in implementing change in cataloging practices. Carol Mandel, Michael Kaplan, Jerry Lowell and Jennifer Younger described innovative measures being developed in their libraries. LC staff from the Enhanced Cataloging Division, the CONSER project, the former Subject and Descriptive Cataloging Divisions, and the former Whole Book Project described programs and pilot projects in copy cataloging and enhanced minimal-level cataloging designed to achieve cost efficiencies and arrearage reduction.

Projects to streamline and maximize use of the "Copy cataloging advantage" (Mr. Kaplan's phrase) described by the visiting librarians had a number of elements in common:

☐ All four libraries use clerical and technical staff to process copy cataloging records. Copy with full description, subject headings and LC-like call numbers are accepted with little or no change. ("Tweaking" is the term used by several during the seminar.) Shelflisting may be done on-line for member catalog records with LC-like call numbers, as at Harvard, or not at all, as at Harvard and Yale for LC copy.

☐ The libraries all do post-processing heading verification and authority control in machine-assisted batch mode. Three of them use vendors for this work. One works from new headings lists generated in-house. A subsidiary point about machine verification of headings was made by Ms. Younger and Ms. Mandel. According to Ms. Younger, only 60 percent of headings are verified. A great cost benefit to cataloging would be an increase

in the number of headings which can be machine verified. To do this, there must be greater cooperative authority program participation. Columbia does no further authority work on the unverified headings, relying on fellow libraries to adhere to the national standard for authority control.

☐ Columbia, Ohio State, and Yale reported on single-point and -time procedures to search, transfer records and process items, including shelflisting. Columbia does this for all material with copy, OSU for material received on approval plans accompanied by copy, and Yale for LC copy.

☐ All libraries attempt to use machine-driven batch processing as much as possible and to make other uses of automation such as the electronic transfer of records. Harvard has a batch searching procedure for arrearage material which is machine generated. Mr. Kaplan noted the shift in sources of cataloging data from 1983 when approximately 60 percent of cataloging records used at Harvard were from LC to 1991 when the percentage of LC copy had fallen to approximately 45 percent and where 75 percent of the records in OCLC were input by members. In this context, it no longer makes sense to defer processing material until LC copy is available, especially since deferred cataloging creates arrearages that become expensive to maintain.

Ms. Mandel stated that few libraries wait for LC copy. Mr. Kaplan pointed out that copy cataloging at Harvard is defined as any full-level catalog record, whether LC or member.

☐ Automation support for technical processing is very important to streamlining copy cataloging. Staff at Columbia have bibliographic workstations with access to OCLC, RLIN and local data bases, for example. Technicians are able to process material using a check-in procedure modeled after the addition of data bases to the Columbia Libraries Online Catalog, where linkages to holdings are added. Ms. Mandel described the emerging enhanced catalog and suggested that future cataloging research and analysis consider the role of authority control and methods of controlled vocabulary in the new, enhanced catalog.

☐ The catalog departments of these institutions have separate original cataloging units heavily committed to creating full-level cataloging records.

While supporting greater sharing of cataloging records to increase the amount of usable copy in the national data bases, neither Mr. Lowell nor Mr. Kaplan felt that the National Coordinated Cataloging Program (NCCP) as it is currently structured is the best model for cooperation. Mr. Lowell pointed out that greater acceptance of member copy diminishes the cost effectiveness of using LC copy. Mr. Kaplan proposed that if continued, NCCP libraries should participate using master authorization in the bibliographic utilities. Cooperative programs should instead focus on reducing duplication of effort through use of member and LC records in the national utilities, relying on adherence of member libraries to national or participant standards in cataloging and authority control. Ms. Mandel suggested LC aid cooperative efforts by "providing 'good' generic tools and procedures for participants in cooperative programs." She also suggested LC take a leadership role in research and demonstration projects for cataloging models.

LC staff, including Pat Bernard, John Byrum, Gloria Hsia, Maureen Landry and Sue Vita, described various programs and projects designed to expedite cataloging of current and arrearage material. Greater use of full-level cataloging copy or enhanced minimal-level cataloging are two methods to achieve this goal. The programs reported on included Enhanced Cataloging Division processing, enhanced minimal-level cataloging, Utilities as Resources in Cataloging and CONSER.

Some characteristics of these programs, excluding CONSER:

☐ Material was selected from Cataloging Directorate arrearages. Items must have been held three years or longer. A second method was to select low-priority material from the current receipts of cataloging sections or teams in the former Subject Cataloging Division or the Whole Book Project. Utilities were then searched for copy, matching records printed out and the data rekeyed into the LC data base. LC has begun using a tape-loading feature for OCLC records that eliminates printouts and rekeying. Electronic transfer of records is also being investigated.

☐ Both professional and nonprofessional staff process catalog records.

☐ Authority work is done during the cataloging process and in a manual mode.

☐ Hit rates varied by age and type of material from 38 percent to 60 percent.

Program descriptions were followed by discussion sessions on the question posed early in the seminar. "Will these programs result in more books being processed?" Recognizing that many of the LC projects represent a single step in the continuum, and that even greater advantage must be taken of full-level cataloging copy, how should LC proceed to meet the twin goals to maximize original cataloging and to better utilize copy cataloging? LC, perhaps more than other libraries, has dual responsibilities that may sometimes be at odds with each other: to process material for a local constituency and to contribute records to national and international data bases.

Some felt that the internal consistency currently maintained in the LC catalog will be sacrificed by accepting member copy. It was pointed out, however, that in times

of declining resources, realistic choices must be made. Libraries, including LC, must reevaluate the level of consistency necessary for effective retrieval of material and recognize the need to provide access to large arrearages that are currently inaccessible. Both Ms. Bishoff and Ms. Mandel have queried whether users need or benefit from the level of catalog consistency catalogers currently strive to achieve.

In response to a query from LC staff, the visitors pointed out that cataloging departments do not use LC copy cataloging records in the same way they use LC original cataloging records. Libraries are making use of the first full-level cataloging record available. The first available member catalog record is used, whether LC or not. The group wondered if this is in fact true for most libraries, and if so, would adding a holdings symbol be sufficient for contribution to the utilities without redistributing the full records through the Cataloging Distribution Service.

Sarah Thomas, director for Cataloging, called on the group to reiterate objectives for future action and develop a series of action items based on the seminar discussions. The objectives:

☐ Maximize the creation of unique original full-level cataloging records.

☐ Maximize the use of copy cataloging.

An outcome of these objectives will be to allow original catalogers at LC to focus on material with no copy, thus reducing duplication of effort and increasing timeliness of available copy. Another significant outcome might be to sharply reduce the number of minimal-level cataloging records created.

The new team structure of the Cataloging Directorate provides an excellent opportunity to experiment with increased use of copy cataloging. Each team will begin with this goal and develop individual implementation plans. A caveat would be to communicate information about the experiment to the cataloging community and to internal LC staff as a reminder that there will be variations in the way LC uses member copy records.

Michael Kaplan addresses seminar attendants (from left) Liz Bishoff of OCLC and Richard Thaxter, Sally McCallum and Marian Latta of the Library. *Photo by Reid Baker*

While meeting the objective to increase the use of cataloging copy, teams will need to take care to continue to catalog original material. One way to do this would be to defer cataloging material with copy to concentrate on cataloging items with no copy. This meets the goal of maximizing original copy, avoids duplication of effort and may even allow technology and staffing levels to catch up with implementation.

Evaluation of copy cataloging programs should consider:

☐ Cost benefit analysis: do these projects in fact realize cost savings?

☐ What material should be eligible for copy cataloging, e.g., current receipts, arrearage material, specific priority levels?

☐ Are quality standards sufficiently met in the use of copy cataloging?

☐ Is optimal automation support provided for efficient copy cataloging results?

☐ Are staff levels appropriate to the required copy cataloging tasks?

☐ Can authority control models described by visiting librarians be adapted to the LC environment?

A review of these programs should take place after the first six months with these criteria in mind. Automation and reference staff should be called upon to assist in evaluating results of the experiments.

National Library Service *(Cont. from p. 337)*

chosen fields serves as an example to their fellow citizens. The society honors these individuals for a distinct purpose—to create role models for the young people of the state.

The society's program begins at the grass roots and is broader and different from standard types of recognition. The program is based on the conviction that excellence exists not only in science, history or the classic arts, but is found equally in technology and service fields.

Awards are made in every field that contributes to American progress, the practical as well as the scientific and theoretical. Age and renown are not the primary consideration; rather contributions and excellence are.

Mr. Clyke was recognized in the field of library and information sciences; he was the first so cited from that area.

Fleming *(Cont. from p. 331)*

The Iberian expansion from the Middle Ages to the beginning of the 15th century absolutely determined the conquest mentality of their people going to the Atlantic islands, to northwest Africa, west to the Americas. Spain's intense Catholicism would seem to have been fueled by its resentment of its Moors and Jews.

"But Spain's cultural sophistication," Dr. Fleming added, "was dependent upon the Moors and the Jews it was expelling in 1492, the very peoples who had passed on to Europe gifts of science, medicine, mathematics, the 'Arabic' numerals, poetry, textiles.

"Another thing we try to point out in the exhibition is the genuinely international character of the Mediterranean world: Christopher Columbus, a Genoese, first goes to Portugal, then to Spain. There were other Italians working in Spain. The Italian Sebastian Cabot worked for the English. There existed an international cast of professional mercenary sailors and explorers. Henry the Navigator [prince of Portugal], in the first half of the 15th century, put together an amazing naval academy, with mapmakers, navigators, theoreticians from all parts of Europe. So you have to take into account these more cosmopolitan trends of the period, as well, and the very specific Spanish experience.

"The 1490s, then, seem to have become completely disjointed. Something phenomenal has happened, and the Mediterranean world struggles to keep up. We in the 1990s have no basis on which to compare such an experience. It is difficult now to relate to the craze over new land and space, just after 1492. Europeans of Columbus's time had an awareness of only about a quarter of the earth's land surface. We find a startling combination of genuine geographical sophistication with the most extraordinary naivete and fantasy. Think for example of the Portuguese investigations of the West African coast. They yielded a great deal of highly accurate climatic and botanical observation and of course wonderfully detailed and accurate maps. At the same time [the navigator] Henry's sailors were earnestly trying to find the mythical Prester John, and his warriors behaved as though they had stepped out of a medieval romance."

Barbara Loste (right) and John Hébert discuss preservation of a book to be used in the exhibit with Sylvia Rodgers Albro of the Preservation Directorate.

Again, was this because they lacked actual visual references to what they saw, to what they were supposed to see?

Said Dr. Fleming: "There are really two levels involved here. These people were reasonably good at recognizing landmarks, a particular bay, for instance, but nevertheless they were still trying to cram all of this new information into the Ptolemaic map system, to make Cuba be the island of Japan, for instance."

The tendency, then, was not creative, not to think grandly but to think small, to fit everything into preconceived patterns with a lot of mixed motives?

"Today we expect everyone—but ourselves—to have very clear and coherent motives, so that: Was Columbus a greedy, money-grubbing imperialist, or was he an idealist? The answer is probably that he was a little of both. Neither and both." Were there voyages before 1492? "While there is limited documentation—most experts agree that there were several Scandinavian voyages [to the Western Hemisphere] antedating Columbus, and also perhaps any number from the Pacific Ocean, the 'Asiatic' side. But Columbus' voyage is different—part of an enduring program dedicated to exploration and discovery.

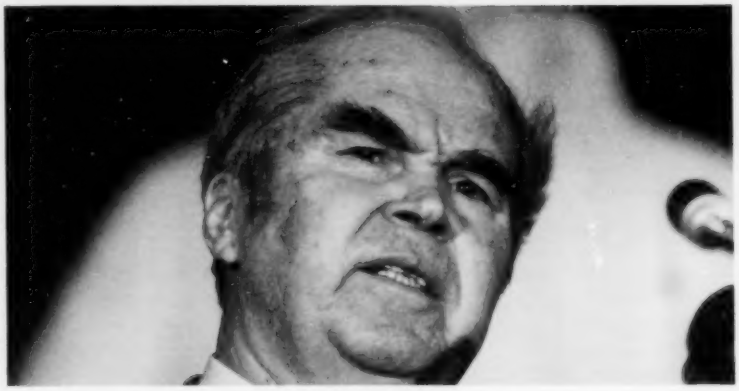
"Most of us in North America now have what must seem to our neighbors a rather parochial view of the 'melting pot'—by which phrase we usually mean the way that northern Europeans have mixed with southern Europeans in America, or western Europeans with eastern Europeans," Dr. Fleming concluded. "In a place like Brazil one sees the *real* melting pot: the major cultural strands associated with 16th and 17th century Americans, Europeans and Africans. In most countries of Central and South America the decisive presence of native peoples is conspicuous. We have to look beyond the agonistic element of cultural encounter to the living results. One wise Mexican historian, blind neither to the pain nor the glory of his country's past, has said this about the meeting of the Spanish *hidalgos* and the Indian warriors: 'It is neither a victory nor a defeat, but the beginning of the tragic history of the *mestizo* race.' "

Retired Russian General Speaks on Communism's Collapse

LC Symposium Focuses on Importance of Russian Archives

On June 18, retired Gen. Dmitrii Volkogonov was one of the participants in a symposium at the Library to discuss the significance of the opening of the Russian archives.

Gen. Volkogonov is a senior military adviser to Russian President Boris Yeltsin and the author of many books on Russian history. During the course of his remarks, he offered the following explanation for the collapse of communism:



Gen. Volkogonov (speaking in photo during the opening of "Revelations from the Russian Archives") later addressed a symposium at LC. *Photo by Reid Baker*

Gen. Volkogonov: Whether we like it or not, for the last 70 years there was a great social experiment. This was not trivial. In many instances it was a criminal experiment, but nevertheless it is a feature of current history.

We cannot say that even though the experiment failed, and it had to experience a colossal defeat, a historical defeat, that this idea of social equality, of social fairness will die.

In other words, this experiment failed, crashed. Bolshevism is finished. But the people, without any complaint, without a battle—18 million Communists—gave power away, practically speaking, after the coup.

Did fairness die? No. Society and world civilization know that we all live on one ship. Everybody knows the word togetherness. We all have to find paths and ways of doing better. This was a horrific experiment, but at the same time, you cannot deny—let's look from the future into the past—that this was an attempt, maybe a terrible attempt, but it was an attempt to establish some social fairness.

Totalitarianism, it seems to me, is characterized by the following signs: it is the colossal role of inertia, of momentum, social momentum. It couldn't happen in a democratic country.

Why did this Bolshevik experiment last over 70 years? Because there were no democratic traditions. There was an absence of political traditions, there was an absence of political democratic institutions, and the social inertia and momentum of the masses moving from one type to another by the Bolsheviks really had a great effect on events.

One of the main methods of changing the world the Bolsheviks used was force and apologizing for the use of force. This was a criminal method, but they explained it. They said this was necessary in order to change the world. And this was one of the aspects of totalitarianism.

Another sign, another indication, was that totalitarianism just doesn't have the capability of taking advantage of historical chances that it is given. It has to be said that Russia was a totalitarian state not only after the Bolsheviks; it was a totalitarian state even before that. We can't say that during the czar it was democratic, and then it became totalitarian. It was totalitarian even before.

And thanks to the Bolsheviks, the czar gave it a chance. You remember in 1905, he published a manifesto—it was an attempt to move to a constitutional monarchy—in which he [spoke in favor of] the freedom to speak, the freedom to join unions, of publishing, all of the things that we're now taking for granted. But the Bolsheviks fought it. They just wanted not only the end of czarism, they wanted a complete change.

Or in February 1917, another chance. This would have been the best chance of changing Russia in a new way. It was not taken, it was not used. In 1945 was another chance. After the victory over fascism, it seemed that there was an opportunity here, as always after major cataclysm. There was always a feeling of being able to change society, but Stalin said and felt that history had confirmed his righteousness, that he was right. And instead of changing, he mothballed the whole system.

It seems to me that the totalitarian society is a synonym for doing everything the same way, of a monopoly on power and thought, an absolutist approach to using force to change society. All of this is on a side road; it is not the main highway toward acquiring civilized human values, and this is really what caused the demise of the system.

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BOOKS (Order from Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Cite stock number—S/N.)

- *Keys to the Encounter: A Library of Congress Resource Guide for the Study of the Age of Discovery.* An overview of events preceding and following the Columbus voyage. S/N 030-000-00234-2. **$18.00**.

Three handbooks prepared at the Library, including histories and descriptions of the regions Columbus explored:

- *Spain: A Country Study.* S/N 008-020-01235-1. **$19.00**.
- *Islands of the Commonwealth Caribbean: A Regional Study.* S/N 008-020-01176-2. **$30.00**.
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MARC DISTRIBUTION SERVICE TAPES (Machine-readable LC cataloging records available from Cataloging Distribution Service. Call 202/707-6100 or FAX 202/707-1334 for ordering information.)

- *Index to Hispanic Legislation.* Information on official gazettes from 28 Spanish-speaking countries.
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GIFT ITEMS (Order from Sales Shop, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540, shipping and handling extra. Call 202/707-0204 to place orders or to receive additional information. VISA and MASTERCARD accepted.)

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